

PERSONAL AND IMPERSONAL.

J. W. Curtis, of Chicago, has a clock 60 years old, which keeps good time, and with a pipe organ attachment that plays as well to-day as the day it was made.

Congressman Payne, of New York, met a grey-haired acquaintance of his at the other end of the street. He was coming, shaking his head sadly, the other way.

Mr. John Forrest, the Australian statesman, has a great record as an explorer. A few years after entering the survey department in 1855 he commanded an expedition sent into the interior in search of Dr. Leichardt.

TRAGEDY OF TROUT STREAM.

Death of One of Its Denizens in the Talons of an Enemy of the Air.

A big brown and white bird came sailing up the trout stream, his long wings stretched far out to right and left. He flew slowly, for he was looking for something—something that he wanted very much.

Quicker than a wink his talons closed about it and his sharp talons sank deep into the trout's flesh. Then up he came, rising out of the stream like some fabled monster of old, and shaking the water from his feathers in a shower of flying drops.

Hard on Little Hermann.

Hermann Piefke was kept in after school hours for his want of proficiency in mental arithmetic.

The Metric System.

A LITTLE NONSENSE.

He Knew—The Vicar—"Now, boys, what animal supplies you with boots and gives you meat to eat?"

The First Requisite—Assume—"Haven't you got a job yet?"

His New Horse—"Seen Ezy's new horse?" asked one citizen of another.

What's the Matter, Klay? You look all tired out!

CANDLES STILL IN DEMAND.

Most of Them Are Manufactured from Osocerite, Which is Dug from the Earth.

In these days of kerosene and gas and electricity one might think wax candles had been pushed to the wall by their modern rivals, but as a matter of fact the old friends by which our grandfathers and grandmothers made love are still an important factor in the lighting of homes in this city.

But outside of New York and our other big cities, the candle is used extensively. In country homes where gas is not available and where oil lamps must be used the candle is found frequently as an agreeable and safe substitute.

Ozocerite, a mineral wax, dug from the bowels of old earth at depths varying from 550 to 600 feet, is the substance out of which most candles now are made.

The wax mines of eastern Galicia, leased and operated by a syndicate of American capitalists, form one of the most curious fields of industry imaginable.

London's Lady Mayor.

The lady mayor of London can appoint maids of honor and a train bearer, and she has her own private State carriage and four.

London's Lady Mayor.

OUT OF THE WRONG BOTTLE.

There Was Trouble in the Thompkins Family When Medicine Got Mixed.

Here, says the New York Press, is a story John W. Gates tells. Do you hear about Thompkins and his wife's No? Well, Thompkins' wife had a cough, and she had to get her a bottle of cough medicine.

"Say, old man, get any stuff that's good for the hair—just that sort of grow, you know?"

Thompkins awoke with a yell. There had been a little slit in the pillow case and he had rolled around with his sticky head until he had made a great hole in the case and had all the feathers worth mentioning flaring out from his cranium so that he looked like the banshee in an Irish folk tale.

IN THE REALM OF DRESS.

Attractive Bits of Finery That Lead Fashion to the Season's Costume.

Petticoats of pongee silk are among the new and lovely articles of the season. An all black hat has the edge of the upturned brim edged with small dangling ornaments of black jet.

Colored pongees are much liked and one may now get the charming shades in these silks that are shown in the heavier and more business silks.

Gloves of evening wear, both elbow and shoulder lengths, are beautifully hand embroidered with fanciful flower designs in bright colors.

Dropped Hermit Cookies.

One cup of butter, one and one-half cups of brown sugar, one cup of raisins chopped fine, one cup of English walnuts chopped fine, one and one-third cups of flour, three eggs, one teaspoon of cinnamon, one teaspoon of cloves, one teaspoon of allspice, one teaspoon of nutmeg, one teaspoon of soda in hot water.

Eggs in Tasty Form.

A particularly tasty dish of eggs is made in this way: Fry two small minced onions in butter until brown, then mix with them a dessertspoonful of vinegar, a little salt and pepper.

TASK OF SCIENTISTS.

Astronomers of England and France Looking for Fraction of Time.

One-Sixteenth of a Second is Missing and the Wise Men Are Spending Much Time and Thought Over the Matter.

If one grain of sand on the shore of the ocean were lost and scientists were to spend years in trying to find it they would be attempting a task resembling that to which the leading astronomers of England and France are now devoting themselves.

No expense is being spared to trace the missing fraction. A special building has been erected at Paris, costly instruments installed, and a corps of mathematicians engaged and a process that may take years to complete has been commenced.

SALEM RELICS NOW DOUBTED.

So-Called Old First Church May Be Reported for Condemnation by Committee of Inquiry.

One of the most noted of historic relics of Salem is about to disappear. The building is the little old First church meeting house, in the rear of the Essex institute, which has been preserved with so much care for almost half a century.

ILLINOIS' NEW BABIES.

Statistics for the Year 1902 Show 27,347 Births in the City of Chicago Alone.

The state board of health of Illinois has compiled statistics on the reports of births in Illinois in the year 1902. The summary shows that a total of 76,998 births occurred in that period.

Aided Victoria's Father.

General Wood's Grandfather Loaned Money to the Royal Family at Critical Time.

The king's appointment of General Sir Evelyn Wood to be a field marshal recalls the fact that the royal family was indebted to Gen. Wood's grandfather for the happy event that the late Queen Victoria was born in England, and not in a foreign country, in 1818.

Never Too Old to Blunder.

CHICKEN FISHING.

Done by Men with Long-Handed Nets in New York Market Streets.

One of the sights at the Gansvoort street chicken market is the chicken fishers. They are men armed with nets similar to those used to catch butterflies, who are kept busy catching lively chickens which escape from the marketmen, says the New York Sun.

The net is a deep affair, and so is the man who carries it. He seldom answers questions. He patrols the street as solemnly as if he was a marine doing sentry duty.

MAN'S PLACE IN NATURE.

Some Interesting Arguments Regarding the Importance of Our Terrestrial Home.

The liveliest scientific discussion of a purely speculative kind which is attracting the notice of a learned world at present is the one precipitated by the recently published magazine article in which A. R. Wallace, argues that our sun occupies the center of the universe, and that our earth is demonstrably the only planet which is inhabited by rational creatures.

Birds on Women's Hats.

The Society for the Protection of Birds in London has been making a seemingly successful campaign against the wearing of egret feathers by fashionable women on their hats, and has been inclined to congratulate itself on the result.

Applying the Lesson.

A little four-year-old boy being taught politeness at meal time was told that he was not to expect to be helped first, and particularly that ladies were always served before gentlemen.

Never Too Old to Blunder.

Russell Sage has lost \$40,000 recently in bad loans. This, says the Chicago Record-Herald, is to be used in comparison with the killing on the battleship Iowa a few days ago.

MASCAGNI IS BITTER.

Italian Composer Gives Impressions of America at Dinner in Paris.

My recollections of San Francisco are delicious, the rest I forget," said Pietro Mascagni, the Italian composer, just returned from an unhappy tour of the United States, at a dinner he gave the other night in the Elysee Palace hotel, Paris.

He first told how he had helped Count Boni de Castellane and Count Robert de Montesquieu to pass the ocean voyage musically, and then he recounted his journeyings and his tribulations in America.

WILL FIGHT TUBERCULOSIS.

Women Come from Paris to Found Institutes Throughout the United States.

Miss Maria A. Radde, of Paris, who has made a specialty of the treatment of tuberculous blindness, cancerous affections and other chronic and chronic diseases, has no time to get to work. Her institutes treatment is administered by the method discovered by M. Grotte, a Lyons chemist, by transmission by means of electricity of the remedies through the pores and bones to the seat of the disease.

CHAMPION WOOD SAWYER.

Connecticut Man Cuts 17 Cords of Wood in Five Hours and is Not Exhausted.

Ralph Sellow, of Marlboro, is the champion wood sawyer of Connecticut. With an ordinary buck saw and saw horse he sawed 17 cords of wood in five hours. He started in at nine o'clock in the morning, after eating two large beef-steaks and drinking three cups of strong coffee.

A Valuable Publication.

A full set of the "Almanach de Gotha," from 1764 to 1900, was recently sold in Paris for \$1,300. Of course, its value is largely rarified, but the old volumes are extremely useful to special students.